

# STATUS REPORT ON WELFARE REFORM

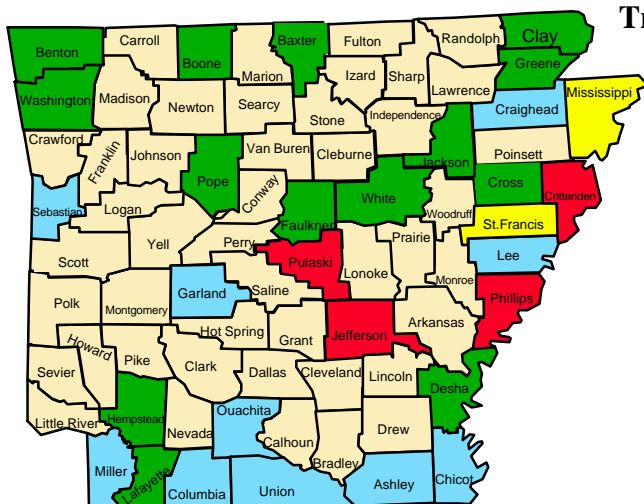
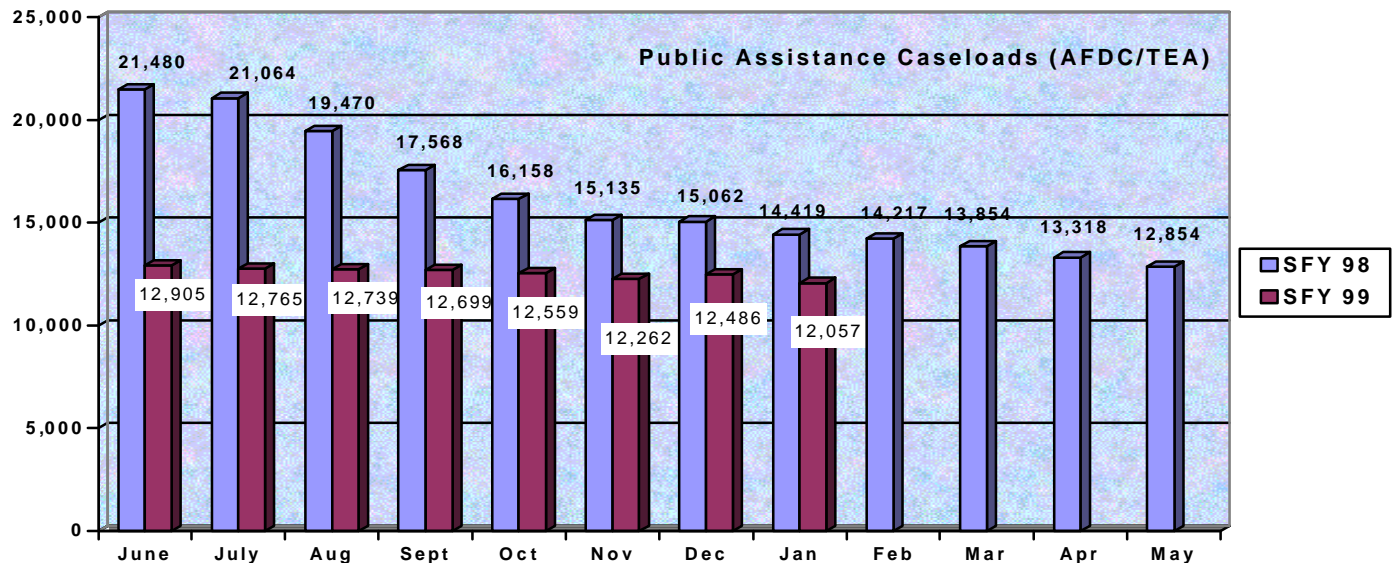
February 11, 1999

Act 1058, *The Arkansas Personal Responsibility and Public Assistance Reform Act of 1997*, replaced the former Aid to Families With Dependent Children (AFDC) program with the Transitional Employment Assistance (T.E.A.) program. The basic thrust of the new T.E.A. program is to assist recipients in transitioning from dependency on public assistance to self-reliance through work.

The executive level summary report is submitted each month to the state T.E.A. Advisory Council and other interested parties.

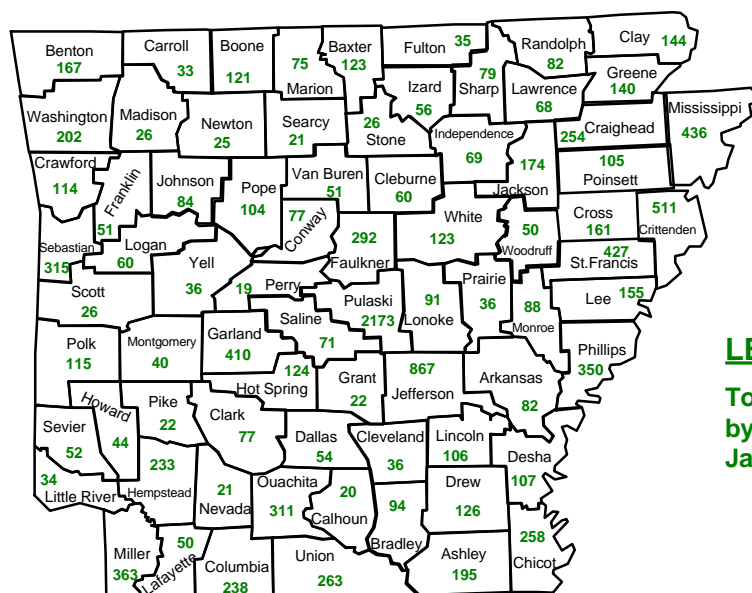
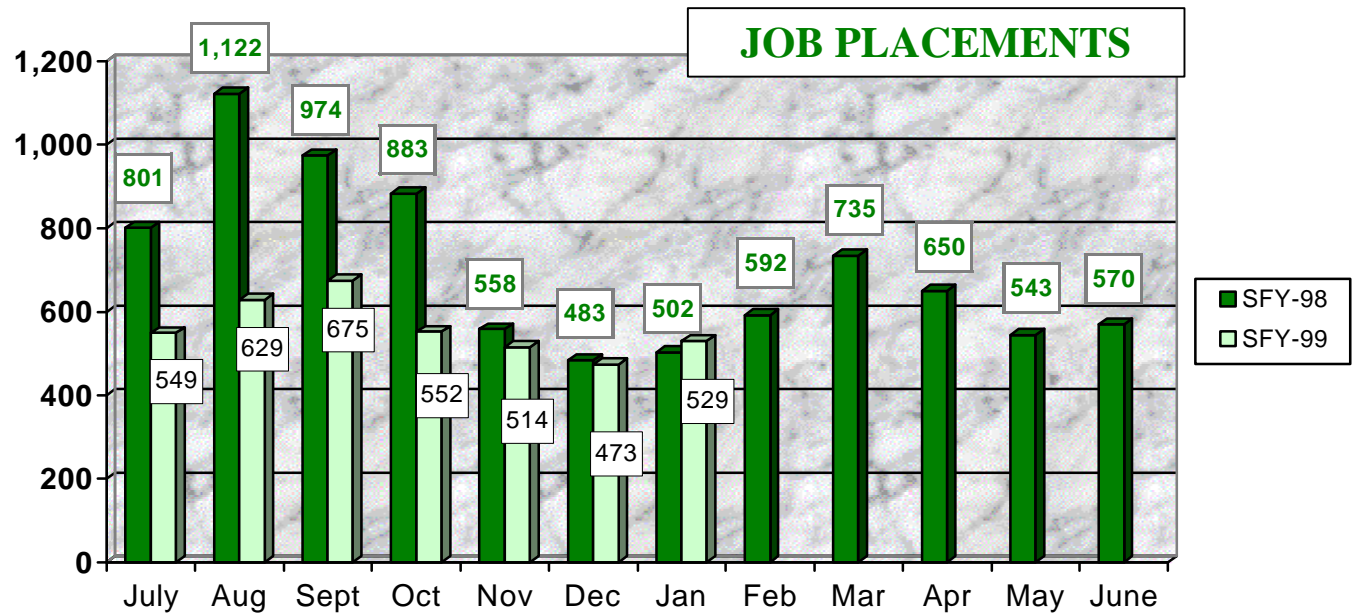
## CASELOAD TREND

During the first nineteen months of implementation of Act 1058, the number of families receiving public assistance dropped by **9,423** families, or **43.87%** of the June, 1997 caseload. \*Caseload totals for July, August, and September 1998, have been revised from previous reports.



## MOVING RECIPIENTS INTO THE WORKFORCE

The following chart and map depict the number of adult recipients of the T.E.A. program who were placed into unsubsidized employment during the nineteen months of implementation of Act 1058. The job placements represent at least 25 hours per week on the job for a total of **12,334** recipients since July 1, 1997. \*The hours per week increased on October 1, 1998. From July 1, 1997 through September 30, 1998, the number of hours was 20 per week.

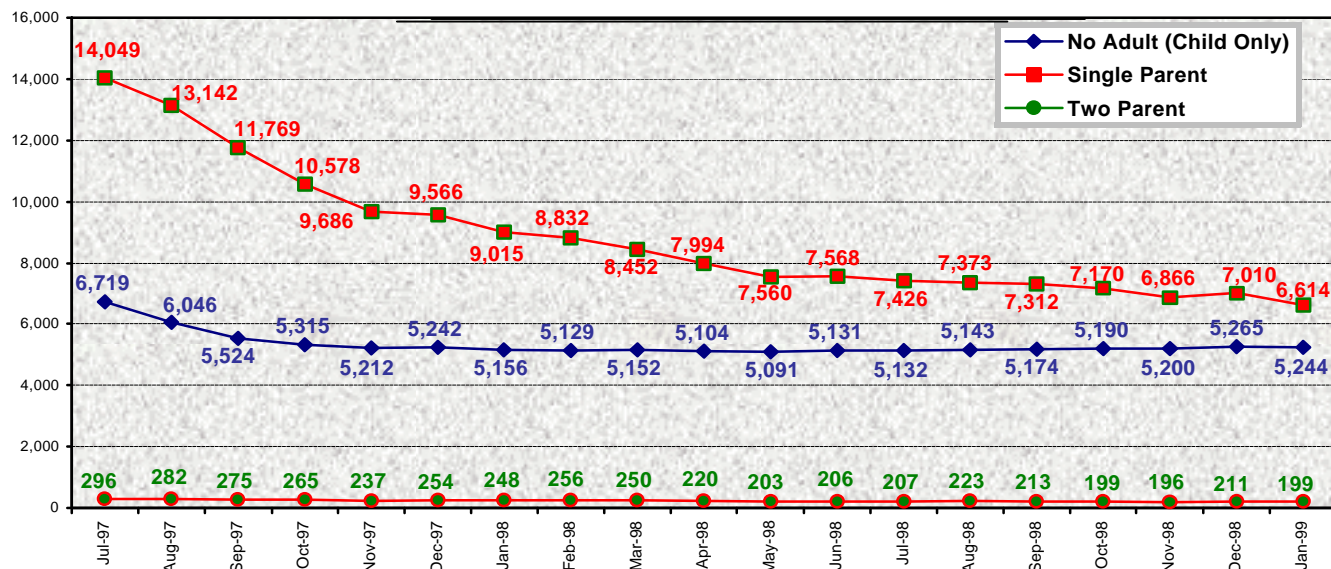


### LEGEND

Total Denotes # Job Placements  
by County July 97 through  
January 99

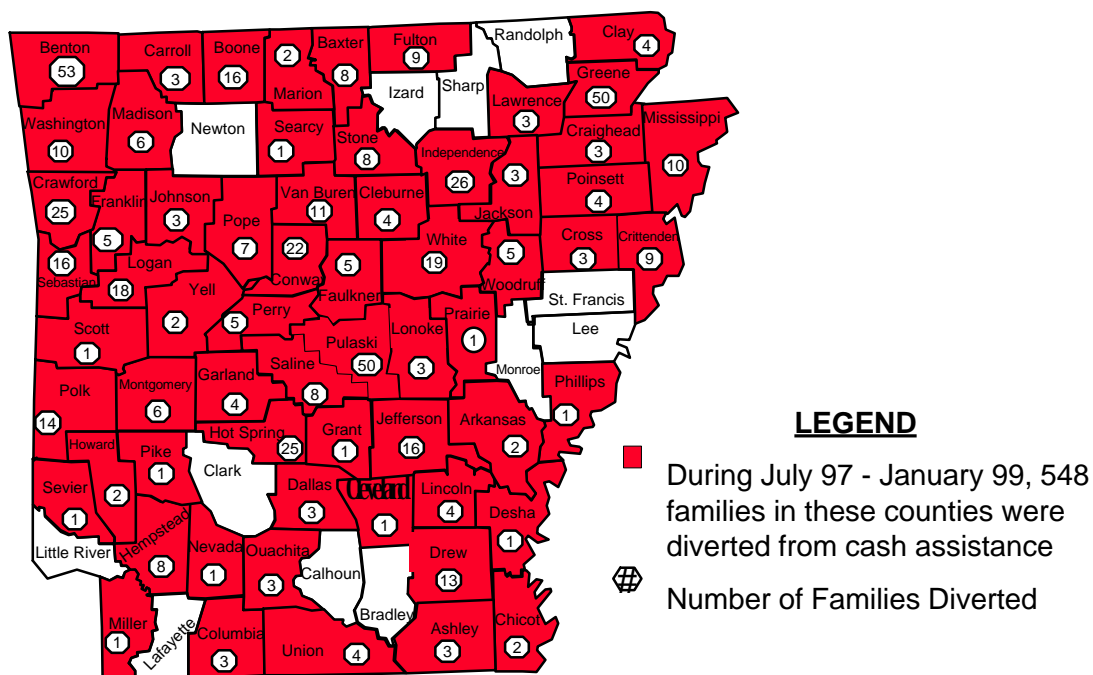
## CASES BY NUMBER OF ADULTS IN HOUSEHOLD

The number of cases, by month, broken down by the number of adults in the home:



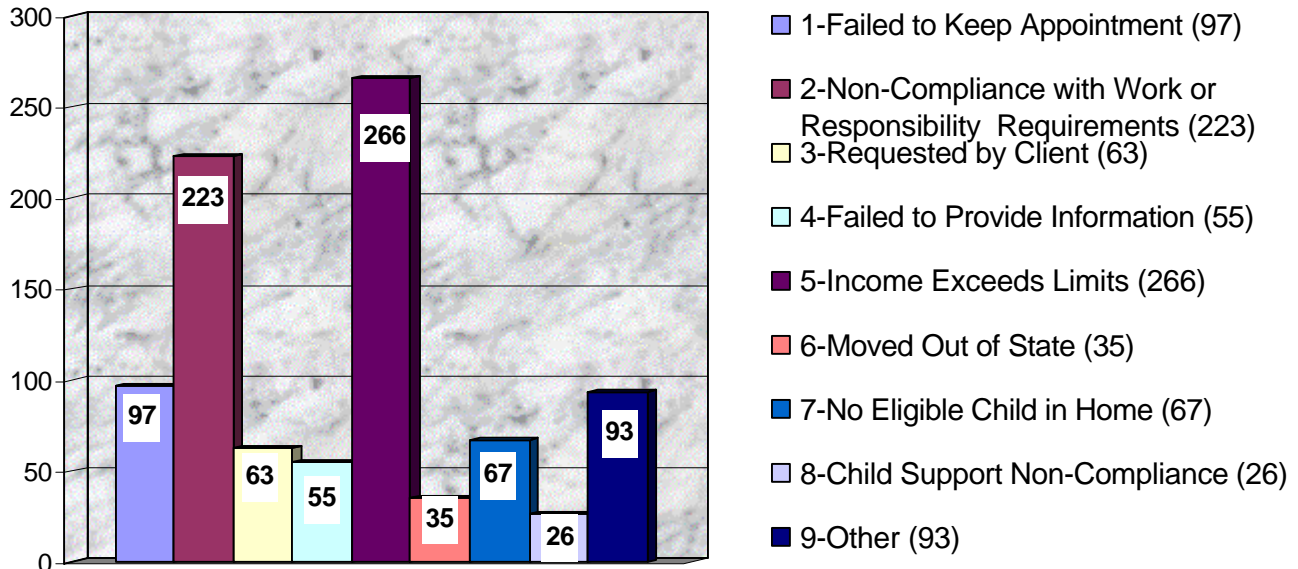
## DIVERSIONS FROM WELFARE

During July 1997 – January 99, **548** families were diverted from ongoing cash assistance at a cost of **\$311,698** (average of \$569 per family). Regular cash payments would have been over \$101,200 a month for an undetermined number of months. As of the date of this report, over 95% of the diverted families have remained off T.E.A. cash assistance.



## T.E.A. CLOSURES, BY REASON

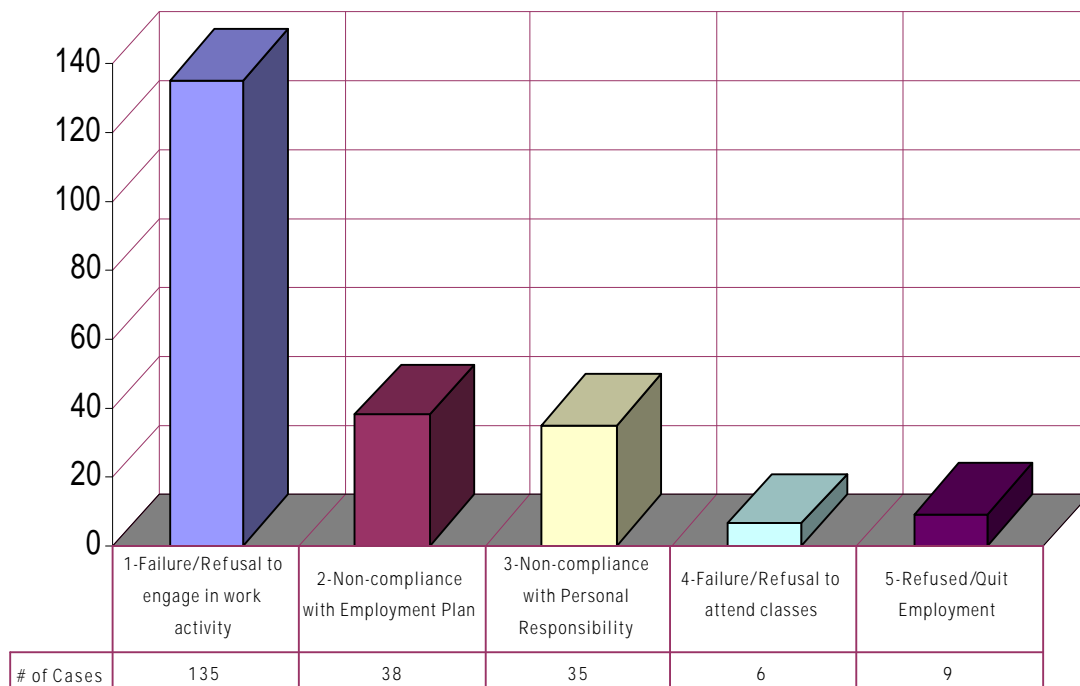
A total of 925 cases were closed during the month of January 99. The reasons were:



**TOTAL CLOSURES: 925**

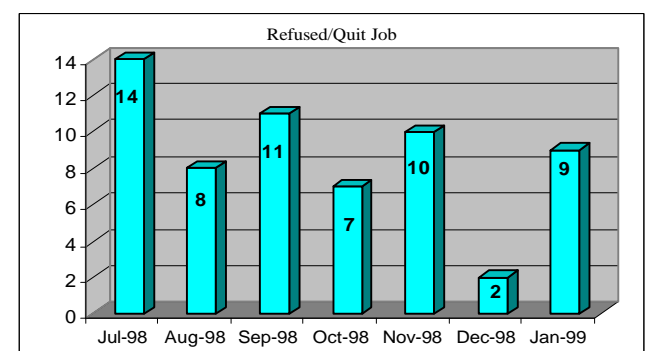
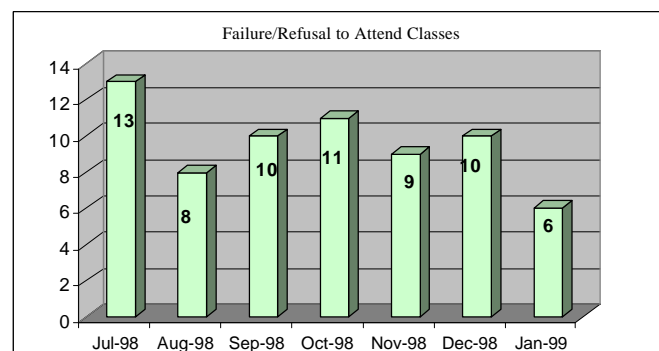
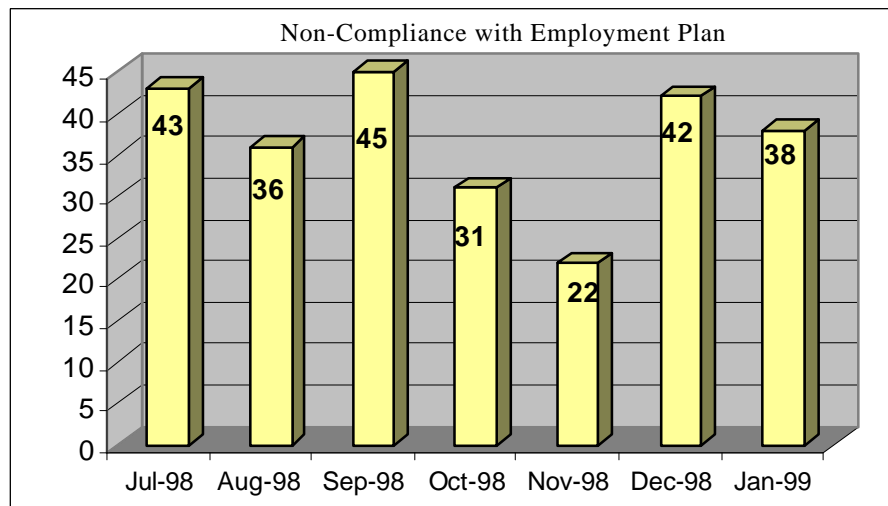
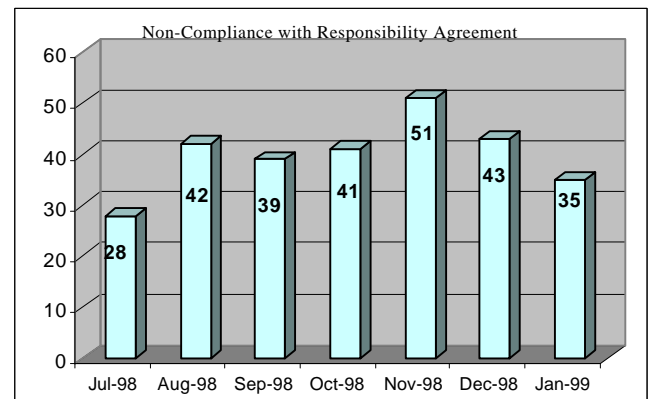
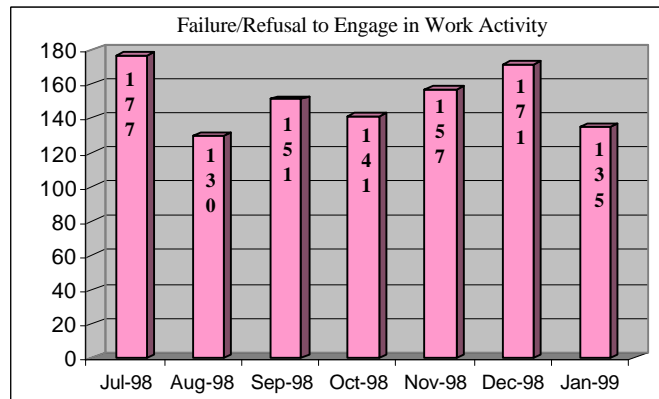
## NON-COMPLIANCE WITH WORK/RESPONSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

223 cases were closed during the month of January 99, due to non-compliance with work/responsibility requirements. The following chart breaks down those cases.



## CASE CLOSURES DUE TO NON-COMPLIANCE, TREND CHARTS

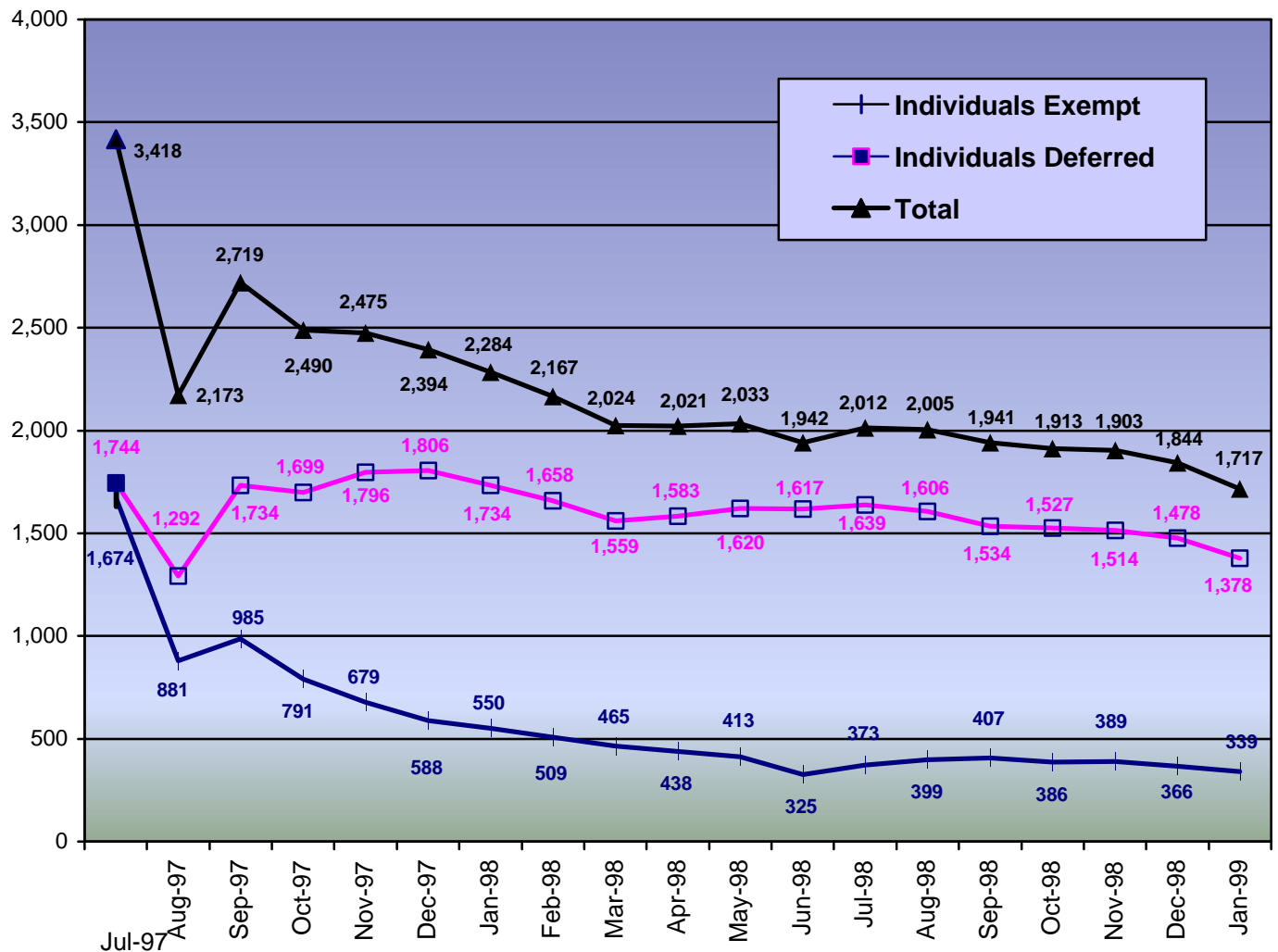
The charts below depict the categories of case closure due to non-compliance, over time.





## DEFERRALS/EXEMPTIONS FROM WORK REQUIREMENTS

Some parents are exempted or temporarily deferred from work requirements. Some of the reasons include medical incapacity, 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester pregnancy, parent of a child under 3 months of age or unavailability of necessary support services such as child care.



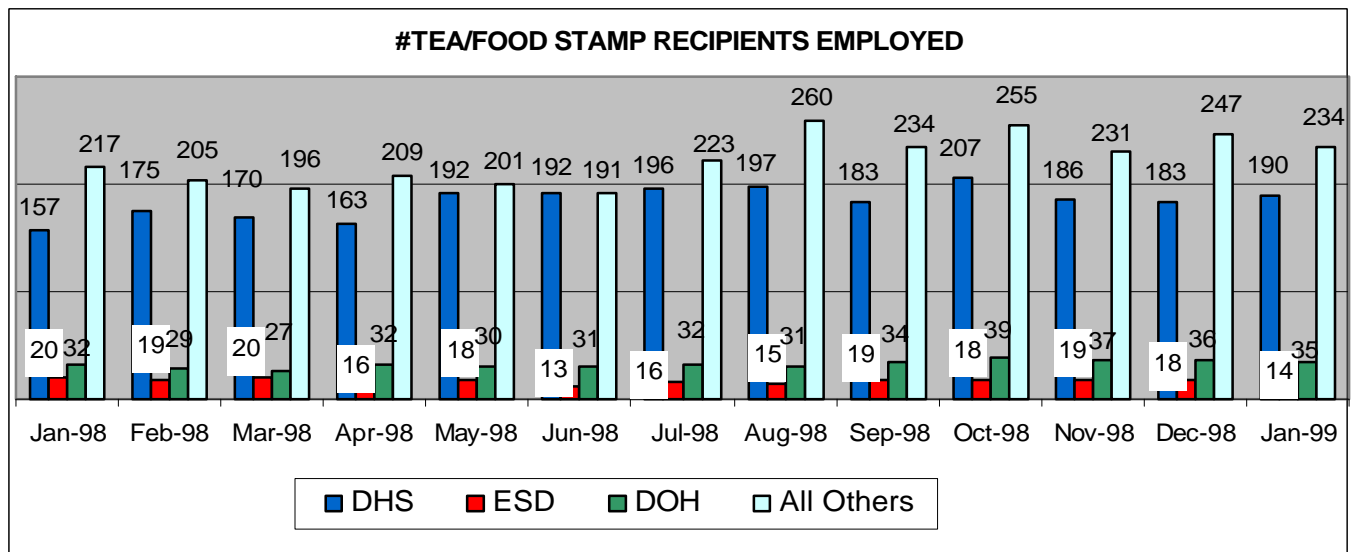
## STATE AGENCY EMPLOYMENT GOAL

Act 1058 requires each state agency to establish a goal of filling at least 10% of their positions that require a high school diploma or less with T.E.A. or Food Stamp recipients. The following chart reflects the status of state agency employment as of January 99.

*\*The number of positions identified as "Employment Opportunities" represents the number of authorized positions in each state agency which require a high school education or less to perform the job functions. Source: state Office of Personnel Management, DFA.*

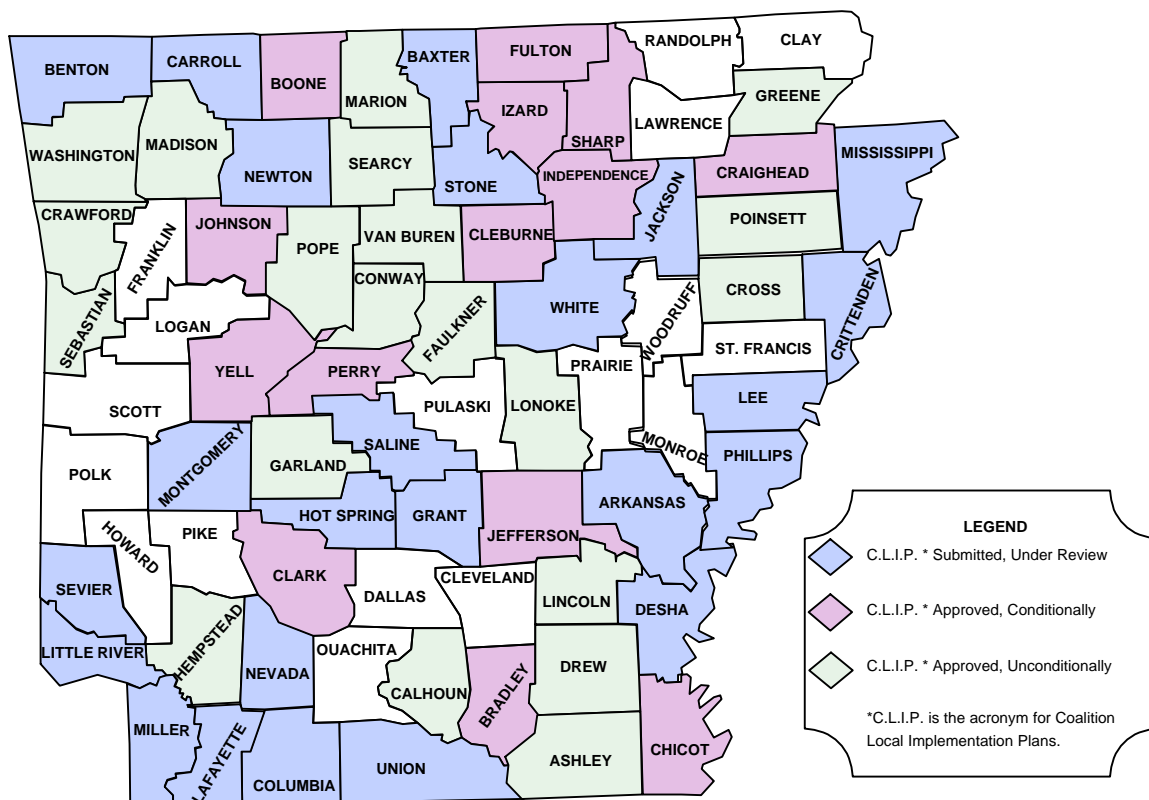
	Department				
	Human Services	Health	Employment Security	All Other Agencies	Total
Total Number of Positions requiring High School Degree or Less	2591	673	69	4150	7483
Number of TEA or Food Stamp Recipients Employed By State Agencies	190	35	14	234	473
Percentage of Employment Opportunities Filled By TEA/FS Recipients	7.33%	5.20%	20.29%	5.64%	6.32%

## T.E.A./Food Stamp Recipient Employment by state agencies, over time.



## LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION PLANS

The successful implementation of “welfare reform” depends on the development, approval and core funding obligation in all 75 counties.



February 9, 1999



## DHS Division of County Operations Training Report for January 1999

Name of Training	Number Training Sessions	Number Staff Trained	Hours Per Session	Number of Participant Training hours
TEA Program Case Management & Other	12	361	Variable	<b>10,570</b>
Medicaid, New Worker	3	12	Variable	<b>472</b>
Medicaid – Family/Refresher	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Substance Abuse	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Food Stamps	5	78	5	<b>1,002</b>
Computer/Technical	13	60	Variable	<b>349</b>
Supervision	8	186	Variable	<b>1,871</b>
Miscellaneous/Other	10	94	Variable	<b>890</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>791</b>	<b>Variable</b>	<b>15,154</b>

Month	Number of Staff Trained	Participant Training Hours
July 98	968	16,537
August 98	680	7,369
September 98	1,524	10,487
October 98	1,704	12,692
November 98	739	10,854
December 98	365	5,799
January 99	791	15,154
<b>Total Training YTD</b>	<b>*6,771</b>	<b>78,892</b>

\*Duplicate Count